

c1 wherein the cover housing includes means for attaching to the cartridge of electronic parts.

c2 12. (Amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein said circuit board includes a memory, the memory communicating with the apparatus and obtaining updated information related to the cartridge.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, and 4-24 are currently pending in the application; Claims 10 and 12 having been amended by way of the present response.

Applicants express thanks for the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1, 2, 4-9, and 15-24.

Applicants have amended dependent Claim 12 to positively recite "information." Applicants respectfully assert that support for this change is self-evident from the originally filed disclosure, including the original claims, and that therefore no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 10-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,477,426 to Bethurum. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of these claims for the following reasons.

Applicants express thanks for the courtesies extended by Primary Examiner Ta and Examiner McCamey to Applicants' personal representatives during the personal interview of January 8, 2003.

Regarding the rejection of dependent Claims 12-14, during the interview Examiners

Ta and McCamey agreed that the dependent claims are allowable over the references of record because the claims depend from allowed independent Claim 1. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn and the dependent claims allowed.

Regarding the rejection of independent Claim 10, during the interview Examiners Ta and McCamey agreed that amendment of the claim to recite that the cover housing includes "means for attaching to" the cartridge of electronic parts would result in allowance of the claim over the references of record in the application. In response, Applicants have so-amended independent Claim 10. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent Claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn and the independent claim allowed.

Dependent Claim 11 depends from independent Claim 10, and is therefore also allowable for at least the same reasons as the independent claim. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn and the dependent claim allowed.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1, 2, and 4-24 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, he or she is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



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Tel #: (703) 413-3000

Fax #: (703) 413-2220

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'G. Maier', written over the printed name.

Reg. No. 41,367

Gregory J. Maier
Registration No. 25,599
Robert T. Pous
Registration No. 29,099
Attorneys of Record

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IN THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended as follows:

10. (Amended) A connector for a cartridge of electronic parts, which is a plug type connector fixed to a side plate of the cartridge of electronic parts, comprising:

a plug housing including a back face opposing to the side plate of the cartridge of electronic parts;

a cover housing combined with the plug housing; and

a circuit board held by both the housings;

wherein the cover housing includes [a protruding section configured to attach] means for attaching to the cartridge of electronic parts.

12. (Amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein said circuit board includes a memory, [and] the memory [is configured to communicate] communicating with the apparatus [to obtain] and obtaining updated information related to the cartridge.